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Detection of $N_2(A^3\Sigma_u^+)$ metastable in DBD discharge by OODR-LIF spectroscopy¹ SANTOLO DE BENEDICTIS, PAOLO FRANCESCO AM-BRICO, GIORGIO DILECCE, Institute of Inorganic Methodologies and Plasmas, CNR, Bari, Italy, MILAN SIMEK, Institute of Plasma Physics, Laboratory of Pulse Plasma Systems, Prague, Czech Republic — The $N_2(A^3\Sigma_u^+)$ metastable has been detected for first time in dielectric barrier discharge at atmospheric pressure in N_2 and N₂-O₂ gas mixtures by Optical-Optical Double Resonance –Laser Induced Fluorescence spectroscopy (OODR-LIF). The DBD discharge occurs over a thin ceramic plate on which one metallic electrode comb structured is deposited. The second electrode is a full deposit on the back of the plate external to the chamber. The $N_2(A)$ OODR-LIF detection takes place by one laser photon tuned on the (3,0)band of $N_2(FPS)$ and a second one on the (2,3) band of $N_2(SPS)$ as described in previous papers [1]. The fluorescence signal of (2,1) band of SPS is measured. The measurement is time resolved in the radiofrequency cycle (11KHz) of applied voltage and space resolved in the discharge gap. $N_2(A)$ metastable LIF signal varies in the voltage cycle as well as with the distance (1 - 5 mm) above the surface of comb electrode. It is significantly quenched as a few percentage of O_2 is added to N_2 . [1] G. Dilecce, P.F. Ambrico, S. De Benedictis, PSST (on line July 2005)

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